

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A power tool gripping portion comprising:

a power tool having a housing and a motor within said housing for actuating an output member of the tool;

a gripping portion adapted to be engaged by the hand of a user of the tool and comprising:

at least one flexible member and at least one clamping member having at least one aperture therein such that at least one said clamping member clamps said at least one flexible member to said housing such that a gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said flexible member and said housing such that said flexible member in use protrudes through said at least one aperture, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium is located in use between said clamping member and said housing, and said clamping member including a fastening mechanism for securing said clamping member with said housing for covering a portion of the housing and said clamping member ~~functioning as the housing~~ providing a surface adjacent said at least one flexible member.

2. (Previously Presented) A gripping portion on a power tool comprising:

the power tool including a housing and a motor within said housing for actuating an output member of the power tool, the gripping portion on the power tool adapted to be engaged by the hand of a user of the power tool, and said gripping portion further comprising:

at least one respective flexible sheet and at least one support having at least one aperture enabling a portion of said at least one flexible sheet, which defines a chamber, to protrude through said at least one aperture, wherein the flexible sheet is mounted to the support to retain gaseous vibration damping medium between said housing and a single thickness of said sheet wherein the chamber is bound by the housing and the single thickness of said sheet and said single thickness of said sheet directly contacting the housing adjacent said chamber.

3. (Previously Presented) A gripping portion according to claim 2, wherein at least one said flexible sheet is formed from a plurality of pockets.

4. (Original) A gripping portion according to claim 2, wherein at least one said support forms part of said housing.

5. (Original) A gripping portion according to claim 2, wherein at least one said gaseous vibration damping material is air.

6. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising a housing having a handle and a motor to actuate an output member of the tool, said handle comprising a gripping portion and a chamber enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium extending outwardly from said gripping portion, said gripping portion surrounding said chamber and securing said chamber in said gripping portion, wherein said chamber is disposed relative to the gripping portion and said chamber positioned on said gripping portion for enabling parts of the user's hand, such as fingers, to contact the gripping portion and other parts, such as palm or heel, to contact the chamber for providing a dampening function for the user such that both the gripping portion and the chamber are simultaneously gripped during operation of the tool and a cover piece including an at least one aperture through which said chamber protrudes, such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chamber and said housing such that said chamber in use protrudes through said at least one aperture, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium is located in use between said cover piece and said gripping portion, said cover piece forming at least a part of said gripping portion of said handle at the location of said cover piece and a fastening mechanism securing said cover piece with said housing and said cover piece covering a portion of said gripping portion adjacent said chamber, said cover piece functioning as said gripping portion adjacent said chamber.

7. (Previously Presented) The power tool recited in claim 6, wherein said cover piece made of a material harder than material forming said chamber which includes said gaseous vibration damping medium.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A power drill comprising:

a main body;

a handle having opposite side surfaces each defining a gripping region;

and

two chambers enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium, said two chambers positioned on said opposite side surfaces of said handle, one said chamber protruding outwardly from said gripping region of each said opposite side surface, said gripping region covering a portion of said chamber, said chambers discrete from each other and said gripping ~~portion~~ region including a ~~fastening mechanism~~ recess portion for retaining said ~~chamber~~ chambers on said ~~housing~~ handle such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chambers and said handle such that said chambers, in use, protrude outward of said gripping region, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium is located, in use, between said recess portion and said handle, and said gripping ~~portion~~ region covers said a portion of the housing handle ~~portion~~ adjacent said chamber and said gripping ~~portion~~ region providing a gripping surface functioning as the housing adjacent said chamber.

10. (Original) The drill recited in claim 9 comprising four said chambers enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium, two of said chambers disposed to protrude from each said gripping region, each of said chambers discrete from each other.

11. (Original) The drill recited in claim 10, said drill further comprising two cover pieces having an aperture therethrough, one said cover piece disposed on each said opposite side surface and defining at least a portion of the gripping region of the handle at the locations of said cover pieces, each said chamber protruding through one said aperture.

12. (Currently Amended) A power sander comprising:

- a housing including a main body having an upper gripping portion;
- a drive motor disposed within said main body;
- a sanding platen extending downwardly from said main body and being driven by said drive motor; and

a chamber enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium, said chamber resting on a portion of said housing, said chamber protruding from an upper surface of said gripping portion, said gripping portion including ~~a fastening mechanism~~ an inner surface of the housing for retaining said chamber on said housing and said gripping portion covers said housing portion adjacent said chamber such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chamber and said housing such that said chamber, in use, protrudes from said gripping portion, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium is located, in use, between said inner surface and said housing, and said gripping portion ~~functioning as the housing~~ providing a surface adjacent said chamber continuous with said housing.

13. (Currently Amended) A power sander comprising:

- a housing including a main body;
- a drive motor disposed within said main body;
- a sanding platen extending downwardly from same main body and being driven by said drive motor;
- a handle extending rearwardly from said main body; and
- a chamber enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium, said chamber resting on a portion of said housing, said chamber protruding from an upper surface of said handle, said gripping portion including ~~a fastening mechanism~~ an inner surface of the housing for retaining said chamber on said housing and said gripping portion covers said housing portion adjacent said chamber such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chamber and said housing such that said chamber, in use, protrudes from said gripping portion, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium is located, in use, between said inner surface and said housing, and said gripping portion functioning as the housing providing a surface adjacent said chamber continuous with said housing.

14. (Previously Presented) The sander recited in claim 13 comprising two said chambers enclosing the gaseous vibration damping medium, each of said chambers discrete from each other and protruding from an upper surface of said handle.

15. (Currently Amended) A power saw comprising:

a main body housing including an opening therethrough to define a handle rearwardly of the opening, said housing adapted to receive a saw blade at a forward end;

a motor disposed in said main body, said motor driving said saw blade;
wherein,

said handle includes a gripping portion and a chamber enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium protruding outwardly from said gripping portion, said chamber disposed relative to the gripping portion and said chamber positioned on said gripping portion for enabling parts of the user's hand, such as fingers, to contact the gripping portion and other parts, such as palm or heel, to contact the chamber for providing a dampening function for the user such that both the gripping portion and the chamber are simultaneously gripped during operation of the tool and a cover piece including an at least one aperture through which said chamber protrudes such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chamber and said housing such that said chamber in use protrudes through said at least one aperture, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium is located in use between said cover piece and said gripping portion, said cover piece forming at least a part of said gripping portion of said handle at the location of said cover piece and a fastening mechanism securing said cover piece with said housing and said cover piece covering a portion of said gripping portion adjacent said chamber, said cover piece functioning as said gripping portion adjacent said chamber.